



**U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers**

Walla Walla District  
Public Affairs Office

# News Release

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## Corps' dredging study draft available for public comment

**Walla Walla, Wash.** -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Walla Walla District draft plan for maintenance dredging in the four projects on the lower Snake River (Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental, Little Goose, and Lower Granite) and the McNary project on the Columbia River, is now available for review and public comment.

The Draft Dredged Material Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement addresses maintenance dredging and disposal of dredged material for the next 20 years. Various disposal methods and locations have been evaluated. Disposal locations include in-water disposal, upland disposal, and a combination of both. Also included as part of the plan is specific information and anticipated environmental impacts of the first dredging effort planned for the winter of 2002-2003.

"We're studying the issue of dredging and dredged material disposal using a broad, long-term approach," said Jack Sands, project manager at the Corps' Walla Walla District.

"The study process has been under way and is moving into a new phase that will include meeting with the public to explain the draft environmental impact statement and hear what people have to say about this effort."

Officials from the Walla Walla District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will conduct two public information meetings.

The two meetings will address the Corps' 20 year plan for maintenance of the navigation channel and recreation facilities, as well as dredged material disposal plans and Lewiston levee modifications. The meeting in Pasco will be an open house format. It will be held on Wed., Dec. 12, 2001, 6-9 p.m., Gjerde Multipurpose Room, Student Union Building, Columbia Basin College, 2600 N. 20th St., Pasco, Wash.

At the Lewiston location, the meeting format will be more structured (i.e. presentation, questions and answers, comments, etc.). It will be held on Thurs., Dec. 13, 2001, 7-9 p.m., Clearwater Room, Helm Restaurant, 1824 Main St., Lewiston, Idaho.

These meetings are part of the public involvement efforts for the environmental impact statement. The EIS evaluates the environmental, economic and social effects of dredging and dredged material disposal. The public comment period has begun, and all comments on this study must be submitted by the close of business on January 7, 2002. The plan can also be reviewed on the Corps' website at <http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/dmmp/>.

For more information regarding these meetings and the study, contact Jack Sands at (509) 527-7287 at the Corps' Walla Walla District Headquarters.

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